

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 135299
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY PM:PACLAPP:GP
APPROVED BY PM - LESLIE H. GELB, DIRECTOR
PM - MR. KAHAN
EUR/SOV - MR. MATTHEWS
NSC - MR. BARTHOLOMEW
NSC - DR. MATHEWS
DOD/ISA - MR. ROWE
JSC - MR. MERRILL
ACDA/WEC - MR. HIRCHFELD
ACDA/ISP - MR. NEWHOUSE
S/MS - MR. JOYCE
S/S - MR. WISNER

-----000417 262317Z /66

O 262218Z MAY 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 135299

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PCAT, UR, US

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO MENDELEVICH COMMENTS ON CAT
AND INDIAN OCEAN

REFERENCE: MOSCOW 11255

EMBASSY SHOULD RESPOND TO MENDELEVICH ON HIS MAY 19TH
COMMENTS, AS FOLLOWS:

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A. HANDLING SOVIET PROPOSAL MADE IN HELSINKI.

-- WE NOTE THAT MENDELEVICH HAS CHANGED FROM THE POSITION
HE TOOK IN HELSINKI THAT THE SOVIET PROPOSAL WAS SEPARATE
FROM THE CONSULTATIONS. WE STILL AGREE WITH HIS ORIGINAL
POSITION THAT THIS PROPOSAL SHOULD BE TREATED OUTSIDE THE

REGULAR CONSULTATIONS.

-- TO THE EXTENT THAT WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH THIS PROPOSAL
IN THE NEXT ROUND, WE WILL BE DIVERTED FROM OTHER MATTERS
THAT WE AGREED SHOULD BE DISCUSSED.

-- OUR REJECTION OF THE PROPOSAL STILL STANDS AND THIS WILL
CONTINUE TO BE OUR POSITION.

B. TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNICATION.

-- WE NOTE THAT MENDELEVICH AND THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT
AGREE WITH THE TEXT NEGOTIATED IN HELSINKI.

C. BRIEFING THE ALLIES ON CAT.

-- WE AGREE WITH MENDELEVICH ON THE CONFIDENTIALITY
OF THE CAT DISCUSSIONS AND WE HAVE BRIEFED OUR ALLIES
PRIVATELY AND CONFIDENTIALLY.

-- OUR ALLIES, OF COURSE, HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO QUERY THE
SOVIETS ON THIS SUBJECT, IF THEY WISH, AND WE APPRECIATE
SOVIET COOPERATION IN TALKING WITH THEM BRIEFLY.

-- WE HAVE THE SAME POLICY FOR DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE
WITH ALLIES OF THE SOVIET UNION.

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D. INDIAN OCEAN.

-- REGARDING MENDELEVICH'S REQUEST TO GET EARLY DATE FOR
NEXT INDIAN OCEAN NEGOTIATION ROUND, US POSITION IS SAME
AS THAT CONVEYED TO MENDELEVICH IN HELSINKI AND BERN.

-- THERE IS APPARENTLY SOME MISUNDERSTANDING ON US
COMMITMENTS TO RESPOND TO SOVIET PROPOSALS ON THIS
ISSUE. GELB DID NOT UNDERTAKE TO PROVIDE SOVIETS AN
AGREED DATE FOR INDIAN OCEAN TALKS BY MAY 20TH, AND NO
PROMISE WAS MADE TO DOBRYNIN TO PROVIDE DATES "IN THE
NEXT FEW DAYS."

-- IN HELSINKI, GELB DID AGREE WITH MENDELEVICH THAT
"THE BALL IS IN OUR COURT" WITH REGARD TO THE SCHEDULING
OF FURTHER MEETINGS, WE WILL BE GETTING BACK TO HIM
LATER. VANCE

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